AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 14, 2005 AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 2, 2005 AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 7, 2005

SENATE BILL

No. 997

Introduced by Senator Soto

February 22, 2005

An act to add Chapter 4.7 (commencing with Section 50980) to Part 1 of Division 1 of Title 5 of the Government Code, relating to state military reservists, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 997, as amended, Soto. State military reservists: service awards. Existing law establishes the Military Department, which includes the State Military Reserve and the Naval Militia, to perform various duties regarding the state militia. Existing law authorizes the presentation of a good conduct medal to each person who, while an enlisted member of the State Military Reserve or Naval Militia, has demonstrated fidelity through faithful and exact performance of duty, efficiency through capacity to produce desired results, and whose behavior has demonstrated that he or she deserves emulation.

This bill would establish the State Military Reserve and Naval Militia Length of Service Award Act. This bill would make an appropriation of \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Military Department to pay an award of \$150 \$100 per month for life to a qualified person, which this bill would generally define as any person who-has served completes 10 years of service in the State Military Reserve or the Naval Militia—for 10 years as of on or after the operative date of the bill, as specified.

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This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: ²/₃. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 4.7 (commencing with Section 50980) is added to Part 1 of Division 1 of Title 5 of the Government Code, to read:

Chapter 4.7. The State Military Reserve and Naval Militia Length of Service Award Act

- 50980. The Legislature finds and declares both of the following:
- (a) The State Military Reserve and the Naval Militia make important contributions to the public safety of the state, particularly in their role as a volunteer reserve force to support the California National Guard and to assume critical state duties of the National Guard should it be called into federal service.
- (b) The purpose of this act is to provide additional incentives for service in the State Military Reserve and the Naval Militia.
- 50980.10. For purposes of this chapter, the following terms have the following meanings:
- (a) "Award" means the State Military Reserve and Naval Militia Length of Service Award that is required to be paid under Section 50980.11.
 - (b) "Department" means the Military Department.
- (c) "Qualified person" means a person who has completed completes 10 years of satisfactory volunteer service as of on or after the operative date of this section, in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated by the Military Department for the administration of the State Military Reserve and Naval Militia, in the State Military Reserve or Naval Militia. For purposes of determining whether a person has completed 10 years of service, a year of service shall not include any year in which a person received payment for six or more months for service in a status that is any of the following:
 - (1) State active duty.

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(2) Inactive duty training.

- (3) Active guard and reserve duty, as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of the United States Code.
- (4) Active duty as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of, and Section 101 of Title 32 of, the United States Code.
- 50980.11. There is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Military Department the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for both of the following purposes:
- (a) To reimburse the department for its administrative costs incurred in implementing this chapter.
- (b) For the payment of awards to each qualified person in an amount equal to one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) dollars (\$100) per month for the remainder of his or her life, except that no award or portion thereof shall be paid for the month in which the person dies.
- SEC. 2. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order to allow the Military Department to make the awards required by this act to help retain state military reservists that protect the public peace, health, and safety, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.